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NEWS RELEASE

Erie VA Medical Center earns Top Performer recognition from The Joint Commission

9/24/2012 (Erie, PA) – Erie VA Medical Center (VAMC) was named one of the nation's *Top Performers on Key Quality Measures* by The Joint Commission for exemplary performance in using evidence-based clinical processes that are shown to improve care for pneumonia and surgical care.

Erie VAMC is one of 620 hospitals in the U.S. earning the distinction of *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures* for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measure performance.

"We understand that what matters most to patients at the Erie VAMC is safe, effective care," says Michael Adelman, MD, Erie VAMC Director. "That's why we have made a commitment to accreditation and to positive patient outcomes through evidence-based care processes. Erie VAMC is proud to be recognized as a *Top Performer*."

This is the second year in a row that Erie VAMC is being recognized as a *Top Performer*. Erie VA Medical Center is one of only 244 hospitals that achieved the distinction two years in a row. Last year, Erie VAMC was recognized for exemplary performance in surgical care.

Each of the hospitals that were named as a *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures* met two 95 percent (95/95) performance thresholds on 2011 accountability measure data. A 95 percent score means a hospital provided an evidence-based practice 95 times out of 100 opportunities to provide the practice.

"When we raise the bar and provide the proper guidance and tools, hospitals have responded with excellent results," says Mark Chassin, M.D., president of The Joint Commission. "This capacity for continual improvement points toward a future in which quality and safety defects are dramatically reduced and high reliability is sought and achieved with regularity. Such day-to-day progress will slowly but surely transform today's health care system into one that achieves unprecedented performance outcomes for the benefit of the patients."

In addition to being included in the release of The Joint Commission's "[Improving America's Hospitals](#)" annual report, Erie VA Medical Center will be recognized on The Joint Commission's Quality Check website (www.qualitycheck.org).

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